

ADAMS, HERBERT

1919-1927

January 15th, 1919.

Mr. Herbert Adams,
131 West 11th Street,
New York.

Dear Sir:-

On behalf of the Saltus Medal Committee I am instructed to transmit their invitation that you act as one of the committee of three to make the award of this medal. The other members asked to serve with you are Mr. Paul W. Bartlett, President of the National Sculpture Society, and Mr. Edward T. Newell, the President of our own Society.

This award is made as a recognition "For Signal Achievement in the Field of the Medal". This is the first award of the medal and it thereby carries the added honor of priority. The man who receives it will have just right to being considered the foremost American medallist. A beautiful medal has been designed by Mr. A. A. Weinman. Although the award carries with it no money prize, a provision has been made whereby our Society may purchase a selection of the medals of the man who receives it. Future awards of the medal will be made, presumably after an interval of one year.

Not only in view of your honored position as President of the National Academy of Design, but because of your knowledge of what has been done in a medallie way by our sculptors, may we ask your kind offices in making this award?

Yours very respectfully,

Secretary.

January 20th, 1919.

Herbert Adams, Esq.,
131 West 11th Street,
New York.

Dear Sir:-

On behalf of the Saltus Medal Committee I am instructed to transmit their invitation that you act as one of the committee of three to make the award of this medal. The other members asked to serve with you are Mr. Paul W. Bartlett, President of the National Sculpture Society, and Mr. Edward T. Newell, the President of our own Society.

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Not only in view of your honored position as President of the National Academy of Design, but because of your knowledge of what has been done in a medallic way by our sculptors, we ask your kind offices in making this award.

Yours very respectfully,

Secretary.

February 7, 1920

Herbert Adams, Esq.
131 West Eleventh Street
New York City

Dear Mr. Adams:

Thank you for your note.

I shall try to arrange to call next week, possibly Tuesday or later, but, as you suggest, I will telephone you in order to make sure you are in.

Very respectfully yours,

Secretary.

HERBERT ADAMS,
131 WEST 11TH STREET,
NEW YORK.

May 25, 1921.

Mr. Sydney Noe, Secretary
American Numismatic Society
New York City.

Dear Mr. Noe:

Enclosed I am sending you photographs of the Choate medal, at Mr. Gilbert's request.

The dies are cut ready for hardening, and the final proof is promised within a week. In case you wish to communicate with me, my address will be

Plainfield, New Hampshire, via Windsor, Vermont.

Yours faithfully,

Herbert Adams

May 28th, 1921.

Herbert Adams, Esq.,
Plainfield,
New Hampshire.

Dear Mr. Adams:-

Your favor of May 25th enclosing photographs of the Choate medal at hand. Mr. Roe is in Europe, hence my answering this letter. I have sent the photograph on to Mr. W. Gedney Beatty, Chairman of the Publication of Medals Committee. I suppose we will be advised later just our part in this matter, and all of the details.

Very truly yours,

Curator.

February 14th, 1923

SCULPTURE EXHIBITION

Herbert Adams, Esq.
131 West 11th Street
New York City

Dear Mr. Adams:

I have just received a letter from Mr. Daniel Chester French saying that he can exhibit certain medals. These include the four which we picked out as well as the William Brewster medal and the Pulitzer medal. I suppose it will be all right to ask him to send all of the medals he mentions?

The Art League medal which you picked out and asked to have photographed, I am inclined to think was made earlier than 1910.

The enclosed copy of a letter to Mr. Fuchs I think will be of interest to you as a matter of record.

Very truly yours,

of the Medal Committee

HW/E

July 27th, 1923

Herbert Adams, Esq.
Plainfield N.H.
via Windsor, Vt.

Dear Mr. Adams:

In looking over the medals and plaques which are exhibited, I have been coveting one of your reliefs - the one showing the three children singing from a scroll, and I am wondering whether it would be possible for the Society to purchase a copy. We have a small amount for purchasing, and I would much appreciate it if you would kindly let me know what would be the charge for this piece.

Very truly yours,

SPN/E

Secretary

June 4th, 1924

Herbert Adams, Esq.
Plainfield, N.H.
via Windsor, Vt.

Dear Mr. Adams:

Will you be so good as to let me know
what progress is being made with the plaques
for our collection?

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary

HERBERT ADAMS
PLAINFIELD N.H. VIA WINDSOR, VT.

June 24, 1924.

Dear Mr. Noe:

I think Gorham's must be making progress with the cast of the small relief of three boys, for I received a bill from them about the time that I received your letter. I have seen nothing of the cast, and have just written to them asking about the matter.

Yours faithfully,

Herbert Adams

Mr. Sydney P.. Noe,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway and 156th St.,
New York City.

HERBERT ADAMS
PLAINFIELD N.H. VIA WINDSOR, VT.

July 26, 1924.

Sydney Noe, Esq.,
American Numismatic Society,
156th St. and Broadway, New York.

Dear Mr. Noe:

At last I have a good cast of the relief of
the Fraser-Campbell children, and I am sending it to you
by mail.

I have asked the Medallic Art people to
send the electrotype of the Peggy Cantt directly to you.
Hoping that these things will be satisfactory to you, and
thanking you for your patience, I am

Yours faithfully,

Herbert Adams

July 31st, 1924

Herbert Adams, Esq.
Plainfield, N.H.
via Windsor, Vt.

Dear Mr. Adams:

Your letter and plaque both received, but you did not enclose a memorandum to cover. Possibly, you may be waiting until the electrotype is finished, but as that is to be made by the Medallie Art Company, and the other was not, we can handle the two items separately if you will send along the bill for the plaque. I showed it to Mr. Newell today, and he was almost as much pleased with it as I. It is a most desirable addition to our Exhibition, and I want to thank you again for letting us have it at cost.

Cordially yours,

Secretary

November 26, 1924

Dear Mr. Adams:

On behalf of the Society, I want to thank you very much indeed for presenting to the Museum one of the two fine plaques which we wished to purchase from you. We greatly appreciate your generosity in helping us increase our ever-growing collection of medals by American artists.

Again thanking you, an

Sincerely yours,

President

Herbert Adams, Esq.
New York City

January 27th, 1925

Mr. Herbert Adams
131 West 11th Street
New York City

Dear Mr. Adams:

Through the Medallie Art Company, we have received two copies of the medal designed by you and presented to Ambassador Jusserand, for addition to our Collection. Thank you very much indeed for having arranged that we should receive these copies.

The medal is charming. I had an opportunity of seeing the Ambassador at the American Academy a few weeks ago, and the likeness seems to me a very happy one.

Very truly yours,

Secretary

February 26, 1927

Herbert Adams, Esq.,
131 West 11th St.,
New York City

Dear Mr. Adams:

As has been their procedure for several years past, the Medallist Art Company have offered to strike for our collection examples of medals made by them during the past year, provided we can obtain the permission of the artist to have this done. Included in this offer is the Anton Henry Klassen Medal designed by you. If you do not feel you can authorize this action on the part of the Medallist Art Company, will you either obtain permission from those who are responsible for this medal or send me the name of the individual to whom an application for having this done should be sent.

We shall appreciate your cooperation in this effort to have our collection of medals by American artists as nearly complete as it can be made.

Very cordially yours,

Secretary

SFN:MB

HERBERT ADAMS,
131 WEST 11TH STREET,
NEW YORK.

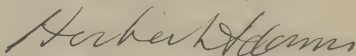
March 4, 1927.

Dear Mr. Noe:

I should be very glad to have the
Medallic Art Company strike the Classen medal
for the Numismatic Society. I am sure Mrs. Classen
would consent, because she has already spoken to
me about having it done.

With personal regard, I am

Yours faithfully,



Mr. Sydney P. Noe, Sec'y
The American Numismatic Society,
155th St. and Broadway,
New York City.

HERBERT ADAMS,
131 WEST 117TH STREET,
NEW YORK.

March 29, 1927.

Mr. Sydney P. Noe, Secretary
The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway at 156th St., New York.

Dear Mr. Noe:

I am to prepare for the Dictionary of American Biography a brief article on Victor David Brenner, and I am writing to ask whether the Numismatic Society has published any article or brochure on this medalist.

I have of course the Catalogue of the International Exhibition of Contemporary Medals, of March 1910, and the Catalogue of our Sculpture Society Exhibition at 156th Street in 1923. But I was wondering whether you have anything in addition to the meagre facts given in those catalogues.

I have written to his widow, now Mrs. Loree Langstroth of San Francisco, but I fear I can get little from so long a distance. Mr. Brenner, as no doubt you knew, was for some time under the care of my brother-in-law, Dr. Amsden, the psychiatrist, but I doubt that he can tell me anything, except on the pathological side, which of course it would be unwise to stress in a brief biographical article for popular consumption.

Please do not be disturbed if you cannot help me in this matter. I am writing on a chance, that's all.

Cordially yours,

Adeline Adams

(Mrs. Herbert Adams)

March 30, 1927

Mrs. Herbert Adams,
131 West 11th St.,
New York City

Dear Madam:

Responding to your letter of March 29th, there are several articles regarding Mr. Brenner which have appeared from time to time, usually in the "Numismatist" or similar publications. I believe it would be simplest for you to consult them here at our library despite the distance that separates. If you could not make it convenient to come here, I should be glad to give you the references so that you might look them up in the Public Library or elsewhere.

We have also one or two booklets which he prepared on the "Art of the Medal." The American Numismatic Society has not published any brochure on his work although that condition may one day be remedied. Something would depend on the length of your article, as to whether it would be worth your while to come here.

Very cordially yours,

SPM:MB

Secretary

HERBERT ADAMS
PLAINFIELD N.H. VIA WINDSOR, VT.

August 16, 1927.

Mr. Sydney P. Woe, Secretary,
The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway at 155th St., New York.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Mr. Huntington has assured me that the Numismatic would help me out in preparing certain biographical articles,—just now, the article on Brenner. I find I still lack certain data, so I am writing to ask whether you willnot kindly lend me the Survey article on Brenner, as I understand you have two copies of that issue.

I would finish with it in a day or two, and would at once return it, unscathed, D. V. It would really be of immense help to me, if I could have it very soon.

Hoping that all you Numismatic people are enjoying a pleasant Summer, I am

Yours faithfully,

Herbert Adams

*Please send
to*

Address:
Mrs. Herbert Adams,
Plainfield, New Hampshire,
via Windsor, Vermont.

August 19, 1927

Mrs. Herbert Adams,
Plainfield, New Hampshire,
via Windsor, Vermont

Dear Mrs. Adams:

Responding to your letter of August 16th, I take pleasure in sending you under separate cover the excerpt from the Survey for which you ask.

Thanking you for your kind wishes,
I am

Very truly yours,

Secretary

SPN:MB

HERBERT ADAMS
PLAINFIELD N.H. VIA WINDSOR, VT.

August 25, 1927.

Mr. Sydney P. Noe, Secretary
The American Numismatic Society
Broadway at 156th St., New York.

Dear Mr. Noe:

I have gratefully received and am carefully
preserving the extract you so kindly sent to me. Now, may I
further ask you if you can send me ~~an~~ clipping or clippings
telling something of Brenner's latest work?

In particular, I need to know the date and place
of his death. My brother-in-law, Dr. Amsden the psychiatrist
under whose care Brenner was,
is abroad. I have written to the former Mrs. Brenner about
this date, but may not soon hear from her San Francisco address.

Yours faithfully,

Adeline Adams
(Mrs. Herbert Adams)

August 29, 1927

Mrs. Herbert Adams,
Plainfield, N. H.,
Via Windsor, Vt.

Dear Mrs. Adams:

Responding to your letter of August 25th, I am enclosing a portion of the obituary which appears in the "Numismatist" and which gives you the date and place of Mr. Brenner's death. I doubt that further details are published.

Regarding his latest work, I know of nothing except the catalogue of the exhibition of the American Sculpture Society in which there is illustrated the design which he submitted in competition for the Peace Medal struck by our Society. In the catalogue of medals exhibited, there is mentioned one for the Warner & Swasey Company made during or after 1920. I doubt that he made any others, and Mr. Weil bears me out in this statement.

If this information is of aid to you I should be very glad.

Very truly yours,

Secretary

SPN:MB
Encl.

Victor David Brenner, sculptor and medalist and designer of the United States Lincoln cent, died at Montefiore Hospital, New York City, on April 5 after a long illness, aged 52 years.

Mr. Brenner was born in Shavly, Russia, June 12, 1871. At the age of 13 he began working as a seal cutter at a bench beside his father, who was an engraver of seals and a stonecutter. Three years later he left home and took up his trade as an engraver of jewelry, and later as a sculptor in several Russian cities. He came to New York in 1890 and studied first at the Cooper Union, and then at the National Academy of Design, and later at the Art Students' League, following his profession during the day and studying at night. In 1898 he went to Paris and studied under Roty for a time. After a year of travel on the Continent he returned to New York and opened a studio. In 1904 he again went to Paris for further instruction under Roty. While he was abroad his work was shown at exhibitions in Paris, Berlin, Munich, London and other cities. He returned to New York in 1906.

HERBERT ADAMS
PLAINFIELD N.H. VIA WINDSOR, VT.

August 31, 1927.

Mr. Sydney P. Noe, Secretary
The American Numismatic Society
Broadway at 156th St., New York.

Dear Mr. Noe:

Thank you very cordially for the data you kindly
sent me, which was just what I needed to fill some blanks in
my article on Brenner.

Under separate cover I am returning to you the
Survey article, which was very useful to me in reviewing my
notes.

With much appreciation I am

Yours faithfully,

Herbert Adams